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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following rewritten Abstract of the Disclosure:

— The present invention relates to a method for fabricating a functional dental element, such as a crown. According to the invention, use is made of a three-dimensional printing technique. The major advantages of the invention are that no mold is needed anymore, which entails a considerable saving of costs, that a great accuracy is achieved, and that the element can be made of different materials. --

Please insert the following heading before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1:

-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

(1) Field of the Invention --

Please insert the following heading before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3:

-- (2) Description of Related Art --

Please insert the following heading before the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 23:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --

Please insert the following heading before the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 10:

-- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 12 with the following rewritten paragraph:

— When a ceramic material is used for forming the dental element, this is preferably selected from the group of SiO₂, Al₂O₃, K₂O, Na₂O, CaO, Ba₂O, CrO₂, TiO₂, BaO, CeO₂, La₂O₃, MgO, ZnO, Li₂O and combinations thereof. Optionally, ceramic compositions can further contain F or P₂O₅. Particularly suitable ceramic materials are the commercially available compositions Vitadur®, IPS Empress®, Dicor®, IPS Empress II®, Cerestone®, CerePearl® and In-Ceram®.

VITALDUR®, IPS EMPRESS®, DICOR®, IPS EMPRESS II®, CERESTONE®,
CEREPEARL® and IN-CERAM®. —